

LUC-430/Mutha 1

16

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are pending in the application. Claims 1-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a). Claim 21 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claim 21 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the Office Action states that the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Applicant has responded by amending claim 21 per the suggestion of the Examiner.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)**Rejection Under Sridhar, Thompson and Jenny**

Claims 1-2, 5-11, 14-15 and 19-25 and 29-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over U. S. Patent Number 6,324,582 issued to Sridhar on November 27, 2001 and U. S. Patent Application Number 2002/0075304 issued to Thompson dated June 20, 2002, and further in view of U. S. Patent Application Number 2003/0065743 issued to Jenny dated April 3, 2003.

Applicant respectfully traverses this ground of rejection for the following reasons.
Applicant's claim 1 recites,

"one or more server components operable to communicate with one or more router components, wherein the one or more server components are operable to employ one or more identifiers of one or more communication devices to make a determination of one or more internet protocol addresses of the one or more router components, and wherein the one or more identifiers comprise any one or more of:

a phone number for one or more users associated with the one or more communication devices;

an email address for the one or more users associated with the one or more communication devices;

an instant message name for the one or more users associated with the one or more communication devices; and

LUC-430/Mutha 1

17

a user name for the one or more users associated with the one or more communication devices;

wherein the one or more server components are operable to assign an internet protocol address to the one or more communication devices, and wherein at least one of the one or more server components comprises one of an optical, a biological, or an atomic data storage medium, and wherein the one or more server components are operable to employ at least one of the one or more identifiers and one or more screening preferences to direct a voice over Internet Protocol (VOIP) call as one of one or more messages or calls through the one or more router components to the one or more communication devices."

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner has equated applicant's "one or more communication devices" to Sridhar's "router". Applicant's claim 1 recites that identifiers of the one or more communication devices comprise any one or more of:

"a phone number for one or more users associated with the one or more communication devices;

an email address for the one or more users associated with the one or more communication devices;

an instant message name for the one or more users associated with the one or more communication devices; and

a user name for the one or more users associated with the one or more communication devices;"

The Examiner agrees that Sridhar does not teach or suggest these limitations. The Examiner proposes to combine Sridhar with Thompson to achieve applicant's claim 1. The Examiner rejected applicant's "phone number, email address, an instant message and a user name for the one or more users associated with the one or more communication devices" identifier limitations by citing Thompson's teaching of "a PSTN destination number, an IP address, an e-mail address for each communications device identified by the respective team member in their current personal profile" as stated in paragraph 0083, "instant messaging" as stated in paragraph 0011 and "user name" as stated in paragraph 0078. The Examiner contends that it would be obvious to include

LUC-430/Mutha 1

18

the communications devices, i.e., router, from Sridhar with the identifiers, i.e., "PSTN destination number, IP address, e-mail address for each communications device identified by the respective team member in their current personal profile", "instant messaging" and "user name" from Thompson to achieve applicant's claim 1.

Applicant disagrees.

First, Thompson does not disclose a router as "one or more communication devices" identified by the respective team member in their current personal profile. Instead, Thompson discloses personal computers (16, 20), office telephone 18, wireline telephone 22, PDA 24, wireless telephone 26, and 2-way pager 28 as communication devices identified by the respective team member in their current personal profile. See paragraphs 0078 and 0086. As known by those skilled in the art, a router is a device that interconnects two or more networks and determines the next network point to which a received packet should be forwarded toward its destination based on a table of the available routes and their conditions. Since a personal computer, office telephone, wireline telephone, PDA, wireless telephone, and 2-way pager do not interconnect two or more networks and do not determine the next network point to which a received packet should be forwarded toward its destination based on a table of the available routes and their conditions, they cannot be considered a router. Thus, Thompson does not disclose a router as a communications device identified by the respective team member in their current personal profile.

Second, applicant agrees that Thompson discloses "a PSTN destination number, an IP address, and an e-mail address for each communications device identified by the respective team member in their current personal profile" as stated in paragraph 0083, "instant messaging" as stated in paragraph 0011, and "user name" as stated in paragraph 0078. The Examiner has equated Thompson's PSTN destination number to applicant's phone number, Thompson's e-mail address to applicant's e-mail address, Thompson's instant messaging to applicant's instant message, and Thompson's user name to applicant's user name for the one or more users associated with the one or more communication devices. However, Sridhar's one or more communication devices, i.e., routers, are not identifiable by Thompson's PSTN destination number, email address, instant messaging or user name. As known by those skilled in the art, routers

LUC-430/Mutha 1

19

are identified by an Internet Protocol address, which is a 32-bit number, written as four numbers separated by periods, that identifies each sender or receiver of information that is sent in packets across the Internet. Since Thompson's PSTN destination number, email address, instant messaging and user name are not a 32-bit number, written as four numbers separated by periods, that identifies each sender or receiver of information that is sent in packets across the Internet, they cannot be considered an identifier of Sridhar's one or more communication devices, i.e., routers.

Applicant notes that Thompson discloses an IP address, however, Thompson's IP address is not equivalent to applicant's recited "identifiers" that comprise a phone number, an email address, an instant message and a user name for the one or more users associated with the one or more communication devices limitations.

Since Sridhar combined with Thompson does not disclose a router identified by a phone number, an email address, an instant message or a user name for the one or more users associated with the one or more communication devices, the proposed combination is missing the requirement of one or more communication devices with identifiers that comprise one of a phone number, an email address, an instant message or a user name for the one or more users associated with the one or more communication devices.

Third, the Final Office Action has cited Jenny only for its alleged teaching of "an optical drive". Thus, the Final Office Action seems to indicate, and applicant agrees, that Jenny does not supply the elements of applicant's claim 1 that were shown hereinabove not to be taught by Sridhar and Thompson.

Therefore the proposed combination of Sridhar, Thompson and Jenny does not teach or suggest all of the limitations in applicant's claim 1, and therefore claim 1 is allowable over the proposed combination. Since claims 2-14 and 22-29 depend from allowable claim 1, these claims are also allowable over the proposed combination.

Independent claims 15, 21 and 30 each have a limitation similar to that of independent claim 1, which, as shown above, is not taught by the proposed combination of Sridhar, Thompson and Jenny. For example, claims 15 and 21 recite, "wherein the one or more identifiers comprise any one or more of a phone number, an email address, an instant message name, and a user name of user associated with a communication

LUC-430/Mutha 1

20

device" and claim 30 recites "a phone number for one or more users associated with the one or more communication devices; an email address for the one or more users associated with the one or more communication devices; an instant message name for the one or more users associated with the one or more communication devices; and a user name for the one or more users associated with the one or more communication devices". The proposed combination of Sridhar, Thompson and Jenny does not teach or suggest these limitations for the above-mentioned reasons. Therefore, claims 15, 21 and 30 are likewise allowable over the proposed combination. Since claims 16-20 depend from claim 15, these dependent claims are also allowable over the proposed combination.

Rejections Under Sridhar, Thompson, Jenny, Conrath, Brooks, Levine and Maes

Claims 3-4 and 16-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Sridhar, Thompson and Jenny as applied to claims 1-2, 5-11, 14-15 and 19-21 above, and further in view of U. S. Patent Number 7,103,770 issued to Conrath on September 5, 2006.

Claims 12 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Sridhar, Thompson, Gonzales, Higgins and Conrath as applied to claims 1-11, 14-17 and 19-21, and further in view of U. S. Patent Number 7,047,305 issued to Brooks on May 16, 2006.

Claims 26-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Sridhar, Thompson and Jenny, and further in view of U. S. Patent Application Number 2004/0258220 issued to Levine dated December 23, 2004.

Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Sridhar, Thompson, Jenny, Conrath, and Brooks as applied to claims 1-12 and 14-21, and further in view of U. S. Patent Number 6,801,604 issued to Maes on October 5, 2004.

Applicant respectfully traverses these grounds of rejection.

These rejections are based on the rejection under Sridhar, Thompson, and Jenny being proper. As that ground of rejection has been overcome, and none of the cited references teach or suggest "a phone number for one or more users associated with the

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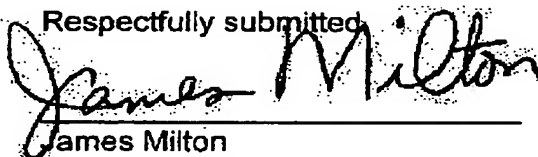
one or more communication devices; an email address for the one or more users associated with the one or more communication devices; an instant message name for the one or more users associated with the one or more communication devices; and a user name for the one or more users associated with the one or more communication devices", as recited in applicant's independent claims 1 and 30, and "wherein the one or more identifiers comprise any one or more of a phone number, an email address, an instant message name, and a user name of user associated with a communication device", as recited in applicant's independent claims 15 and 21, the combination of Sridhar, Thompson, Jenny, Conrath, Maes and Brooks does not supply these missing elements. Thus, these combinations do not make obvious any of applicant's claims, all of which require the aforesaid limitations.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the Office Action's rejections have been overcome and that this application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are, therefore, respectfully solicited.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, allowance of all claims pending is respectfully requested. If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call applicant's attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



James Milton
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 46,935

Dated: August 31, 2010

CARMEN PATTI LAW GROUP, LLC
Customer Number 47382
(312) 346-2800